

## **Background information on Law Enforcement for extended/project fire incidents.**

There are four principal methods that sheriff offices augment their forces when confronted with extended/project fire situations that involve federal lands and/or thru a DNRC County Assist.

1. They are able to muster and maintain sufficient resources internally within their own office and are able to keep up with their daily workload as well as demands of the incident. If that office can absorb those increased costs itself then DNRC has no role other than perhaps some logistical help (if needed). If it's a FEMA fire incident then reimbursement can either be done direct thru their DES department or more likely thru DNRC on the FMAG, in which case documentation should match requirements placed on DNRC for that incident.
2. Mutual aid invoked sheriff to sheriff. The details of any reimbursement or logistical needs are determined by those sheriffs and DNRC generally has no role. If the mutual aid turns into a prolonged situation then it may transition into one of the other methods (#3 or #4).
3. Each sheriff office has an in-place Law Enforcement Agreement between them and a federal land management agency that has land/facilities in that county. Some of our direct protection Areas/units also have a separate agreement in place and this could apply as well. That agreement covers cost reimbursement/recovery for patrol, investigations, special events, etc. on a yearly basis. If the district/forest supervisor/Area/Unit agrees, that agreement may also be utilized for events related to wildland fire, but that is not a given in every case. That decision rests with the local land management/protection agency. If that agreement is utilized to have local law enforcement deal with evacuations, security, or actions necessitated by the wildland fire, then DNRC (unless utilizing our separate direct protection agreement) would have no financial role other than perhaps in a cost-share scenario. Reimbursement billing would go from the sheriff office to the agency with whom they have that agreement. They conceivably could use our dispatch or DNRC to get needed resources, but care should be taken to keep the finance path clear to all parties rather than having to sort it out after the fact.
4. Project Star. Assuming all pre-conditions of a Project Star mobilization are met (agreement and details worked out between the Sheriff/IC/Line officers pre-dispatch) the order is placed with our wildland dispatch who issues a resource order and makes their call to MSPOA. MSPOA assembles the Star Team and relays details back to dispatch. The mobilization is handled like any other, but the Star Team works for the Sheriff who works with the IMT. At demobilization the paperwork returns with the resource back to their agency. MSPOA collects those and consolidates those into one bill, which goes to the DNRC Fire Finance supervisor and then into the system.